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MABRAY JOYCE A 05/07/82 160357 PRINTER: LI
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PAGE 01 KUWAIT 02795 091406Z
ACTION NEA-07
INFO OCT-01 ADS-00 INR-10 EUR-12 SS-15 AF-10 CIAE-00
EB-08 DODE-00 H-01 IO-15 NSCE-00 NSAE-00 COME-00
SSO-00 SY-05 HA-06 DOE-10 TRSE-00 PM-09 PA-02
DCT-02 SSM-05 SVC-00 INRE-00 OES-09 SSN-02 SYE-00
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O 091333Z JUN 81
FM AMEMBASSY KUWAIT
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 8946
INFO AMEMBASSY AMMAN
AMEMBASSY BEIRUT
AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS
AMEMBASSY JIDDA
AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM
AMEMBASSY MUSCAT
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK
USINFO WASHDC IMMEDIATE
USICA WASHDC IMMEDIATE
USINT BAGHDAD
UNCLAS KUWAIT 2795
E.O. 12065: N/A
TAGS: PEPR, EG, IS, US, XF, IZ, MOPS
SUBJECT: KUWAIT PRESS REACTION TO ISRAELI ATTACK ON IRAQI
NUCLEAR FACILITY

DEPARTMENT OF STATE A/CDC/MR
REVIEWED BY CTL DATE 9/30/82
RDS ☐ OF XDS ☐ EXT. DATE
TS AUTH: REASON(S)
ENDORSE EXISTING MARKINGS ☐
DECLASSIFIED ☐ RELEASABLE ☒
RELEASE ENTIRE ☐
PA or FOI EXEMPTIONS

1. ISRAELI ATTACK ON IRAQI NUCLEAR FACILITY WAS MAIN STORY IN ALL KUWAITI DAILIES JUNE 9. STORIES WERE FROM WESTERN WIRE SERVICES, PRINCIPALLY AP AND REUTERS, AND WERE PLAYED STRAIGHT, INCLUDING USG CONDEMNATION OF RAID.

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2. FIVE OF SEVEN PAPERS BASED MAIN JUNE 9 EDITORIAL ON ATTACK, SOME NOTING US CONDEMNATION, BUT IMPLYING THAT US COULD AND SHOULD RESTRAIN ISRAELI BELLICOSITY.
3. AL WATAN'S EDITORIAL SAYS "THE ISRAELI AND AMERICAN AIM WAS AND REMAINS THE DESTRUCTION OF ARAB PROGRESS... THE ISRAELI ENEMY, WITH AMERICAN WEAPONS, REPRESENTS US POLICY DIRECTED AGAINST THE ARABS. THE STRUGGLE AGAINST ISRAEL SHOULD BE INSEPARABLE FROM THE STRUGGLE AGAINST AMERICAN WHO PROTECTS ISRAELI AGGRESSION AND DEVELOPS IT AGAINST ARABS EVERYWHERE..."
THE EDITORIAL CONCLUDES WITH THE CONTENTION THAT THE US SUPPLIED URANIUM TO ISRAEL AND LENT ITS EXPERTISE TO HELP ISRAEL CONSTRUCT "MORE THAN FIFTEEN ATOMIC BOMBS."
4. AL RAI AL AAM SAYS THAT THE US "CERTAINLY" KNEW OF THE RAID IN ADVANCE AND THAT US CONDEMNATION IS "MERELY A CONVERUP". THE EDITORIAL TAKES THE RAID TO MEAN THAT THE US IS NOW OPENLY

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SUPPORTING IRAN AGAINST IRAQ.

5. AL SIYASSAH AND ENGLISH-LANGUAGE ARAB TIMES ASK WHAT AMERICAN REACTION TO THE RAID WILL BE, NOW THAT THE US HAS FOUND THE ATTACK "UNJUSTIFIED...THE US SHOULD REALIZE THAT ITS ALLIANCE WITH ISRAEL IS LEADING THE WORLD INTO A CATASTROPHE..."

6. IN LENGTHIEST EDITORIAL, AL ANBAA SAYS IRAELHJFQUARTUDVBNLQCTV # #
IUKUIUOSBQDRLP R #
KSFJZQEUD TO ISRAEL'S #
BORDER STATES. THERE'S NOTHING PREVENTING ISRAEL FROM CARRYING OUT ITS THREATS TO DESTROY ARAB OIL BECAUSE OF THE OIL STATES' ROLE IN RESISTING ISRAEL AND SUPPORTING CONFRONTATION STATES AND PALESTINE."

THE PAPER CONTENDS THAT THE ATTACK WAS DELIBERATELY TIMED TO

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AMBASSADOR HABIB'S RETURN TO THE REGION IN ORDER TO EMPHASIZE TO WASHINGTON THAT "SECURITY QUESTIONS, AS ISRAEL SEES THEM, TAKE PRECEDENCE OVER ALL OTHER ISSUES AND THAT WASHINGTON MUST WALK BEHIND ISRAEL IN THIS MATTER...THE HABIB MISSION MUST END IN FAILURE, AND THE FAILURE WILL MEAN WAR BETWEEN ISRAEL AND SYRIA. THE RAID WAS A WARNING TO IRAQ NOT TO ENTER THE WAR ON SYRIA'S SIDE. THE TWO COUNTRIES MUST STAND TOGETHER, BECAUSE THEIR FATES ARE ONE...IT IS IRAN'S RESPONSIBILITY NOW TO END THE WAR WITH IRAQ. EITHER IRAN WILL ACCEPT A CEASEFIRE AND STAND WITH US, OR PROCEED WITH WAR AND STAND AGAINST US."

THE EDITORIAL ENDS WITH A PLEA TO KING HUSSEIN TO PLAY A ROLE IN SAVING IRAQI-SYRIAN RELATIONS.

7. KUWAIT RADIO REPORTED AT 1100 GMT JUNE 9 THAT THE KUWAIT NATIONAL ASSEMBLY TODAY ISSUED A STATEMENT CONDEMNING THE ISRAELI RAID AND SUPPORTING IRAQ. DICKMAN

NOTE BY OC/T: KUWAIT 2795. # GARBLES IN PARA 6, LINES 1 THROUGH 4. CORRRECTION TO FOLLOW.

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